

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SAIGON 01850 01 OF 05 191525Z

51

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-09 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 AID-05 OMB-01 IO-10 SR-02 ORM-01 NIC-01 DPW-01

EB-07 IGA-01 /098 W

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R 191233Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2854

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMCONSUL CAN THO

AMCONSUL DANANG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USDEL JEC PARIS

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

USIA WASHDC

AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

CINCPACFLT MAKALAPA HI

CINCPACAF HICKAM AFB HI

CG FMFPAC

CDR USSAG NKP RTAFB

USDAO SAIGON

USDEL FPJMT SAIGON

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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PAGE 02 SAIGON 01850 01 OF 05 191525Z

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 5 SAIGON 1850

USIA FOR IBS/NCA
CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, PINS, MILI, VS
SUBJ: VIETNAM WEEKLY CEASEFIRE ASSESSMENT-- FEB 12-18,1975

PART I--SUMMARY.

A. THE GENERALLY QUIET SITUATION WITH RESPECT TO MILITARY ACTIVITY THAT HAD LED UP TO TET AND INTO ITS INITIAL STAGES CONTINUED THIS WEEK. RVNAF OFFICIALS STILL EXPECT, HOWEVER, THAT THIS RELATIVE LULL WILL SHORTLY BE REPLACED BY A SHARP ESCALATION IN THE FIGHTING. THERE ARE REPORTS THAT ONE COMMUNIST AIM WILL BE THE INTERDICTION OF PRINCIPAL LOCS, PERHAPS COUNTRYWIDE. ANOTHER NVA/VC PRIME NEAR-TERM TARGET IS STILL EXPECTED TO BE TAY NINH IN MR-3; THERE WAS ADDITIONAL COMMUNIST BUILD-UP NORTH OF THAT CITY THIS WEEK. THE NUMBER OF INCIDENTS, AND THE NUMBER OF COMMUNIST AND GVN FORCES KILLED IN ACTION BASED ON INITIAL ARVN REPORTS, WERE ALL DOWN THIRTY TO THIRTY-FIVE PER CENT FOR THE PERIOD.

B. MR-1 HAD A GENERALLY QUIET WEEK, WITH NO SIGNIFICANT MILITARY ACTIVITY NORTH OF THE HAI VAN PASS AND A LOW LEVEL OF FIGHTING SOUTH OF THE PASS. THE MOST ACTIVE AREA WAS QUANG NGAI, WHERE A CONTINUING ARVN CLEARING OPERATION MADE LITTLE PROGRESS. THE FIGHTING WAS PRINCIPALLY IN THE DANH KHUONG MOUNTAIN AREA.

C. FIGHTING WAS AGAIN QUITE LIGHT IN MR-2, ALTHOUGH IN BOTH KONTUM AND PLEIKU THE COMMUNISTS ON FEB 13 MOUNTED FAIRLY HEAVY ATTACKS ON GVN POSITIONS OUTSIDE THOSE TWO CITIES. THERE ARE INTELLIGENCE REPORTS THAT NVA FORCES CONTINUE TO MOVE INTO THE VINH THANH VALLEY IN BINH DINH PROVINCE, WITH THE PROBABLE INTENT TO INTERDICT QL 19 IN BINH KHE DISTRICT. MR-2 OFFICIALS THINK THE CURRENT CALM MAY BE A PRELUDE TO COORDINATED COMMUNIST ATTACKS AGAINST LOCS COUNTRYWIDE. ANOTHER 376 PHUOC LONG REFUGEES ARRIVED IN QUANG DUC.

D. THE TET CALM PERSISTED IN MR-3 FOR ANOTHER WEEK, ALTHOUGH
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PAGE 03 SAIGON 01850 01 OF 05 191525Z

THERE WAS A MARKED INCREASE IN SAPPER AND TERRORIST ACTIVITY. INCIDENTS IN THE REGION DECREASED FOR THE SIXTH STRAIGHT WEEK. THERE WAS FURTHER NVA/VC BUILD-UP NORTH OF TAY NINH CITY, AND THERE WERE ADDITIONAL INDICATIONS THAT AN ATTACK WAS NEAR. COMMUNIST ARTILLERY, ROCKET AND MORTAR FIRE AGAINST GVN POSITIONS AROUND THE CITY PERSISTED.

E. THE DELTA WAS GENERALLY QUIET OVER TET AND THROUGHT THIS WEEK.

FOLLOWING CONSIDERABLE LOSSES OF MEN AND MATERIEL DURING DEC. AND JAN. FIGHTING, THE COMMUNISTS MOUNTED A PROPAGANDA EFFORT PRE-TET TRYING TO SHAKE PUBLIC CONFIDENCE. THIS EFFORT BACKFIRED AT MOC HOA, WHERE PEOPLE GIVE CREDIT TO THE ARVN FOR THE LACK OF EXPECTED NVA/VC ATTACKS. THE RESULT HAS BEEN A BOOST IN PUBLIC CONFIDENCE IN ARVN AND TERRITORIAL FORCES IN THAT AREA. AS A RESULT OF THE CALM OVER THE HOLIDAYS ANOTHER HIGHPOINT THIS MONTH IS NOW VIEWED AS UNLIKELY.

PART II--ICCS.

THE ICCS HAS STARTED TO RUN OUT OF FUNDS AGAIN OWING TO LACK OF CONTRIBUTIONS, AND OWES AIR AMERICA OVER \$1 MILLION.

PART III--FPJMT, TPJMC AND RELATED MATTERS.

THE DRV/"PRG" BOYCOTT OF THE FPJMT AND TPJMC CONTINUED INTO ITS THIRTY-FIFTH WEEK.

PART IV--COMMUNIST MEDIA COMMENT

A. OPPOSITION TO US AID

COMMUNIST PROPAGANDA ORGANS CONTINUED THEIR ATTACK ON THE FORD ADMINISTRATION'S SUPPLEMENTAL AID REQUEST AND FY76 BUDGET REQUEST FOR VIET-NAM, QUOTING EXTENSIVELY FROM CONGRESSIONAL OPPOSITION STATEMENTS. INITIAL TREATMENT OF NEWS OF THE UPCOMING CONGRESSIONAL FACT-FINDING TRIP HAS BEEN STRAIGHT, BUT IT HAS BEEN INCLUDED IN LONG LISTS OF ARGUMENTS THAT THE US IS "POKING ITS CRIMINAL HANDS DEEPER AND DEEPER INTO SOUTH VIET-NAM AND CAMBODIA" (NHAN DAN).

B. PLAF CELEBRATES FOURTEENTH ANNIVERSARY.

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PAGE 04 SAIGON 01850 01 OF 05 191525Z

THE FOURTEENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FORMATION OF THE "PEOPLE'S LIBERATION ARMED FORCES" IN SVN BROUGHT THE USUOXYCUSH OF OFFICIAL GREETINGS AND EDITORIALS, BUT NO CLAIMS OF EASY OR EARLY VICTORY FOR THE COMMUNISTS. DRV DEFMIN GEN GIAP, IN A LETTER TO HIS "PRG" COUNTERPART, NOTED THAT THE "JUST STRUGGLE" IN THE SOUTH, "THOUGH PROTRACTED, ARDUOUS AND RUTHLESS, WILL CERTAINLY BE VICTORIOUS". NHAN DAN, IN ITS COMMEMORATIVE EDITORIAL, CLAIMED "DEFEAT" OF THE "STRATEGY" OF A SERIES OF US PRESIDENTS IN FOUR-YEAR CYCLES, BUT CONCLUDED THAT "OUR PEOPLE'S STRUGGLE..WILL HAVE TO GO THROUGH MANY MORE DIFFICULTIES AND HARDSHIPS".

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PAGE 01 SAIGON 01850 02 OF 05 191524Z

51

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-09 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 AID-05 OMB-01 IO-10 SR-02 ORM-01 NIC-01 DPW-01

EB-07 IGA-01 /098 W

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R 191233Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2855

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMCONSUL CAN THO

AMCONSUL DANANG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USDEL JEC PARIS

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

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USDAO SAIGON

USDEL FPJMT SAIGON

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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PAGE 02 SAIGON 01850 02 OF 05 191524Z

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 5 SAIGON 1850

USIA FOR IBS/NCA
CINCPAC FOR POLAD

PART V--MR-1.

1. SECURITY SITUATION:

I CORPS HQS BRIEFED 97 CEASEFIRE VIOLATIONS, A DECREASE FROM LAST WEEK'S 149. NORTH OF HAI VAN PASS THERE HAS BEEN NO SIGNIFICANT FIGHTING. SOUTH OF THE HAI VAN PASS FIGHTING HAS REMAINED AT A LOW LEVEL. ON FEB 13, THE 15TH AIRBORNE BATTALION OF THE NEWLY FORMED 4TH AIRBORNE BRIGADE DEPARTED DANANG BY SHIP FOR SAIGON. DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD GVN CASUALTIES WERE 70 KIA, 292 WIA, 21 MIA. NVA/VC LOSSES WERE 176 KIA, 3 CAPTURED, AND 3 RETURNEES. A TOTAL OF 170 COMBAT AIR SORTIES WERE FLOWN. THE MAJORITY OF THE AIR STRIKES WERE IN SUPPORT OF THE 2D INFANTRY DIVISION IN QUANG NGAI (P); THE REMAINDER WERE IN SUPPORT OF AIRBORNE AND ARVN 3D INFANTRY DIVISION ELEMENTS IN THE VICINITY OF HILL 52 AND DUC DUC IN QUANG NAM (P).

2. NORTH OF THE HAI VAN PASS:

QUANG TRI (P) HAS REMAINED QUIET. IN THUA THIEN (P), ELEMENTS OF THE ARVN 1ST INFANTRY DIVISION HAVE HAD SCATTERED CONTACTS AND EXPERIENCED LIGHT SHELLING FROM NVA/VC FORCES IN THE MO TAU AND NUI BONG AREAS. ON FEB 16, NVA/VC FIRED 9 RDS 82MM MORTAR INTO THE 3D REGT AT NGUYEN TRAI BASE (YE893003), THUA THIEN (P). FOUR OF THE ROUNDS CONTAINED LEAFLETS EXHORTING THE RVNAF SOLDIERS TO DESERT. ON FEB 8, AIR VIETNAM RESUMED DAILY SCHEDULED FLIGHTS INTO PHU BAI AIRBASE NEAR HUE.

3. SOUTH OF THE HAI VAN PASS:

IN QUANG NAM (P) FIGHTING HAS BEEN LIGHT WITH CONTACTS OCCURRING IN THE AIRBORNE AO IN THE VICINITY OF HILL 52 AND IN THE 3D INFANTRY DIVISION AO IN THE VICINITY OF DUC DUC. ON FEB 6TH AND 7TH, NVA/VC ABDUCTEE A TOTAL OF 1056 PEOPLE; 386 FROM DUC DUC (D) AND 670 FROM DAI LOC (D), QUANG NAM (P). ON FEB 10, AN NVA/VC SAPPER WAS KILLED WHILE ATTEMPTING TO BLOW UP THE GIAO THUY

CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 SAIGON 01850 02 OF 05 191524Z

BRIDGE WHICH CONNECTS DAI LOC (D) AND DUC DUC (D) IN QUANG NAM (P). THREE SPANS OF THIS BRIDGE WERE DESTROYED ON FEB 4TH AND REPAIRS Y E NOT YET BEEN COMPLETED. THERE HAS BEEN NO SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITY IN QUANG TIN (P). MODERATE ACTIVITY CONTINUED IN

QUANG NGAI (P) AS THE 2D INFANTRY DIVISION OPERATION "QUYET THANG A/1/75" FAILED TO MAKE ANY SIGNIFICANT GAINS. FIGHTING WAS MAINLY IN THE VICINITY OF DANH KHUONG MT, NGHIA HAN (D), QUANG NGAI (P). ON FEB 13, NVA/VC ASSASSINATED A POLICEMAN OF THE BINH KHANH SUB SUBSECTOR, BINH SON (D), QUANG NGAI (P). ON FEB 15, A POLICEMAN WAS ASSASSINATED BY NVA/VC SE OF MO DUC DISTRICT TOWN, QUANG NGAI (P). ON FEB 17, NVA/VC DISGUISED AS CIVILIANS ASSASSINATED THE CHIEF OF TAN QUANG (H), PHO HUNG (V), DUC PHO (D), QUANG NGAI (P).

4. ICCS: NO OBSERVATIONS OR INVESTIGATIONS WERE REPORTED IN ICCS REGION 1 OR REGION 2.

PART VI--MR-2

1. SUMMARY: PREDICTIONS THAT THE COMMUNISTS WOULD LAUNCH MAJOR ATTACKS AT TET NOTWITHSTANDING, MR-2 AGAIN SAW RELATIVELY LITTLE MILITARY ACTIVITY DURING THE FIRST WEEK OF THE LUNAR NEW YEAR. IN THE VINH THANH VALLEY IN BINH DINH, THE 2ND BN OF THE 47TH ARVN REGT KILLED 18 COMMUNISTS ON FEB 17 GVN INTELLIGENCE INDICATES THAT ELEMENTS OF THE 3RD NVA DIV ARE STILL MOVING INTO THE VINH THANH VALLEY, PROBABLY IN PREPARATION FOR INTERDICTING QL-19 IN BINH KHE DISTRICT. A FLURRY OF COMMUNIST ATTACKS OCCURRED IN KONTUM ON FEB 13; A REPORTED 76 COMMUNISTS WERE KILLED IN THESE CLASHES, FOR THE MOST PART AS A RESULT OF GVN REACTIVE AIRSTRIKES. THE COMMUNISTS ARE APPARENTLY CONTINUING TO MOVE SUPPLIES AND IMPROVE THEIR ROAD NETWORK IN WESTERN AND SOUTHERN PLEIKU, POSSIBLY IN PREPARATION FOR AN ATTACK ON QL-14 IN DARLAC. MR-II OFFICIALS BELIEVE THAT THE CURRENT RELATIVE QUIET IS OCCASIONED BY THE COMMUNIST FORCES AWAITING A SIGNAL TO BEGIN SIMULTANEOUS ATTACKS AGAINST LINES OF COMMUNICATION THROUGHOUT VIETNAM.

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PAGE 01 SAIGON 01850 03 OF 05 191517Z

51

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-09 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

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R 191233Z FEB 75
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2856
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMCONSUL BIEN HOA
AMCONSUL CAN THO
AMCONSUL DANANG
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USDEL JEC PARIS
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
USIA WASHDC
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CINCPACAF HICKAM AFB HI
CG FMFPAC
CDR USSAG NKP RTAFB
USDAO SAIGON
USDEL FPJMT SAIGON
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
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PAGE 02 SAIGON 01850 03 OF 05 191517Z

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 3 OF 5 SAIGON 1850

USIA FOR IBS/NCA
CINCPAC FOR POLAD

STATISTICAL SUMMARY FEBRUARY 10 - 16, 1975

I. COMMUNIST-INITIATED INCIDENTS:

	TOTAL INCIDENTS	HIGHLAND	COASTAL ZONE
LAST WEEK:	23	31 PERCENT	69 PERCENT
THIS WEEK:	28	47 PERCENT	53 PERCENT

KONTUM WAS THE MOST ACTIVE PROVINCE WITH 6 INCIDENTS

II. GVN-INITIATED INCIDENTS:

LAST WEEK: 38
THIS WEEK: 30

III. COMMUNIST PERSONNEL AND WEAPONS LOSSES:

	PERSONNEL			WEAPONS		
	KIA	CIA	RETURNEE	CS	INDV	TOTAL WPNS
LAST WEEK:	254	07	02	12	57	69
THIS WEEK:	116	01	00	06	24	30

IV. GVN PERSONNEL AND WEAPONS LOSSES:

	KIA	WIA	MIA	CS	INDV	TOTAL WPNS
LAST WEEK:						
AR 56 05		01	17	18		
THIS WEEK:	26	40	04	00	04	04

V. GVN ARTILLERY AMMO UTILIZATION (ROUNDS):

	105	155	175	TOTAL
LAST WEEK:	7,559	724	74	8,357
THIS WEEK:	6,646	726	133	7,505

VI: GVN AIR OPERATIONS (SORTIES):

	TAC	AIR	VR	HELICOPTER
LAST WEEK:	327	199	969	
THIS WEEK:	212	168	783	

2. BINH DINH: MILITARY ACTIVITY WAS AGAIN LIGHT. THE ONLY LARGE INCIDENT OF THE WEEK TOOK PLACE ON FEB 17 IN THE VINH CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 SAIGON 01850 03 OF 05 191517Z

THANH VALLEY (BR 613534), WHERE THE 4TH CO/2ND BN OF THE 47TH ARVN REGT TOOK MORTAR AND SMALL ARMS FIRE FROM AN UNIDENTIFIED COMMUNIST FORCE. THE ARVN TROOPS KILLED 18 COMMUNISTS AND CAPTURED 7 WEAPONS IN THIS CLASH, WHILE SUFFERING 3 KIA AND 7 WIA. IN AN NHON DISTRICT, POPULAR FORCES KILLED 13 VC, INCLUDING 7 ON THE EVE OF TET, WITMEUT TAKING ANY CASUALITIES OF THEIR OWN. COMMUNIST HARASSMENT CONTINUED, ESPECIALLY IN WESTERN TAM QUAN AND EASTERN PHU CAT. ALSO, ON FEB 14, TWO DEMOLITION CHARGES IMPLANTED BY VC UNDERWATER SAPPERS DESTROYED A SMALL PORTION OF THE DOCK IN QUI NHON PORT. GVN INTELLIGENCE INDICATES THAT ELEMENTS OF THE 3RD NVA DIV ARE STILL MOVING INTO THE VINH THANH VALLEY; EVIDENTLY THE NVA'S INTENTION IS TO LAUNCH A MAJOR ATTACK TO INTERDICT QL-19 FROM BINH GIANG (BR 600445) TO BINH TUONG (BR 748386) IN BINH KHE DISTRICT.

3. KONTUM: AN OTHERWISE QUIET WEEK WAS INTERRUPTED BY HEAVY FIGHTING ON FEB 13, WHEN THE COMMUNISTS LAUNCHED 4 ATTACKS BY FIRE AND ONE GROUND ATTACK AT POSITIONS OF THE 22ND AND 23RD RANGER GROUPS NORTHWEST OF KONTUM CITY. IN THESE ATTACKS, 280 ROUNDS OF MIXED TYPE ORDNANCE WERE FIRED BY THE COMMUNISTS; 100 OF THESE WERE DIRECTED AT THE HQS OF THE 23RD RANGER GROUP (ZA 205957), DAMAGING FOUR 292 ANTENNAE. THE RANGERS

SUFFERED 2 KIA AND 11 WIA, WHILE THE COMMUNISTS REPORTEDLY HAD 76 KIA, 12 WEAPONS LOST, AND 5 HOUSES AND 2 ARTILLERY POSITIONS DESTROYED (MOST OF THE COMMUNIST CASUALTIES RESULTED FROM GVN REACTIVE AIRSTRIKES). SOME GVN OFFICIALS BELIEVE THAT AT LEAST ONE REGT OF THE 10TH NVA DIV HAS LEFT KONTUM AND HAS RELOCATED IN CAMBODIA TO THE WEST OF QUANG DUC PROVINCE IN PREPARATION FOR AN ATTACK ON THAT PROVINCE; THE EVIDENCE FOR THIS IS TENUOUS.

4. PLEIKU: PLEIKU WAS GENERALLY QUIET. HOWEVER, LIKE KONTUM, PLEIKU SAW A FLURRY OF ACTIVITY ON FEB 13, WHEN THE COMMUNISTS ATTACKED RF POSITIONS NORTHWEST OF PLEIKU CITY AND 25TH RANGER AND 44TH REGT POSITIONS SOUTHWEST OF THE CITY. GVN LOSSES IN THESE INCIDENTS WERE 7 KIA, 11 WIA, AND 3 MIA, WHILE COMMUNIST LOSSES WERE 9 KIA AND SEVERAL WEAPONS AND EXPLOSIVES. THE GVN HAS RECEIVED NO DEFINITE INTELLIGENCE WITH RESPECT TO THE LOCATION OF THE 968TH NVA DIV, WHICH REPORTEDLY HAS REPLACED THE 320TH NVA DIV IN WESTERN PLEIKU. THE COMMUNISTS ARE CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 04 SAIGON 01850 03 OF 05 191517Z

APPARENTLY CONTINUING TO MOVE SUPPLIES AND IMPROVE THEIR ROAD NETWORK IN WESTERN PLEIKU. OF PARTICULAR SIGNIFICANCE IS THE FACT THAT THE GVN HAS RECEIVED INFORMATION INDICATING THAT THE COMMUNISTS ARE RUSHING THE COMPLETION OF SEVERAL WEST-EAST ROADS IN PHU NHON DISTRICT WHICH LEAD TO QL-14; THESE ROADS COULD BE USED TO BRING IN SUPPLIES AND TROOPS FOR ATTACKS ON QL-14 IN DARLAC.

5. OTHER: DESPITE THE REPORTED ARRIVAL IN PROVINCE OF THE 320TH NVA DIV, DARLAC WAS CALM. GVN OFFICIALS, HOWEVER, ANTICIPATE AN ATTACK AGAINST NORTHERN QL-14 BY THE 320TH DIV AND A THRUST AT QL-21 EAST OF BAN ME THUOT BY THE 25TH NVA REGT. AN ADDITIONAL 376 REFUGEES ARRIVED IN QUANG DUC FROM PHUOC LONG THIS WEEK.

6. ICCS: NEGATIVE.

CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 01 SAIGON 01850 04 OF 05 192155Z

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-09 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

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EB-07 IGA-01 /098 W

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R 191233Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2857

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMCONSUL CAN THO

AMCONSUL DANANG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USDEL JEC PARIS

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

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CG FMFPAC

CDR USSAG NKP RTAFB

USDAO SAIGON

USDEL FPJMT SAIGON

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

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PAGE 02 SAIGON 01850 04 OF 05 192155Z

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 4 OF 5 SAIGON 1850

USIA FOR IBS/NCA

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

PART VII--MR-3

1. THE TET LULL IN MR-3 CONTINUED THROUGH THE REPORTING PERIOD

WITH ONLY A SLIGHT INCREASE AFTER THE THREE-DAY TET PERIOD BUT A SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE IN SAPPER ACTIVITY. TOTAL INCIDENTS DECLINED FOR THE SIXTH CONSECUTIVE WEEK. ALL SIGNS POINT TO A CONTINUED NVA/VC BUILDUP IN TAY NINH AND AN IMMINENT MAJOR ATTACK THERE, BUT THE CITY WAS GENERALLY QUIET THROUGH TET.

2. THE TOTAL OF MILITARY INCIDENTS DECLINED AGAIN THIS REPORTING PERIOD WITH 132 INCIDENTS, COMPARED WITH 165 FOR THE PREVIOUS WEEK. TAY NINH HAD 30 INCIDENTS (48 LAST WEEK) AND 23 INCIDENTS OCCURRED IN BINH DUONG (24). MR-3 HQS REPORTED 23 GROUND CONTACTS, 59 ATTACKS BY FIRE, AND FIVE COMBINED GROUND AND ABF'S. THERE WERE SEVEN MININGS AND 33 OTHER INCIDENTS.

3. NVA/VC ABF'S TOTALED 850 ROUNDS, INCLUDING 679 MORTARS, 63 ROCKETS, AND 108 ARTILLERY ROUNDS. ARVN EXPENDITURES DROPPED TO 8,586 ARTILLERY ROUNDS (14,972 LAST WEEK). VNAF 3RD AIR DIV FLEW 87 FIXED-WING SORTIES AND 282 HELICOPTER GUNSHIP MISSIONS.

4. GVN CASUALTIES WERE REPORTED AS 371 (8-, 109 WIA, AND 11 MIA. NVA/VC LOSSES WERE 59 KIA, TWO CIA, AND THREE RALLIERS. VNAF REPORTED AN ADDITIONAL 29 NVA/VC KILLED BY AIR STRIKES.

5. IN TAY NINH, THERE WAS A MODERATE DECLINE IN INCIDENTS. THE NVA/VC BUILDUP NORTH OF TAY NINH CITY CONTINUED, HOWEVER, WITH INCREASING SIGNS OF AN IMMINENT ATTACK AGAINST THE CITY AND AGAINST ROUTE 1/22 TO CUT THE ROAD IF POSSIBLE IN SOUTHEASTERN TAY NINH PROVINCE AND ISOLATE THE CITY. NVA/VC ARTILLERY, ROCKET, AND MORTAR ATTACKS CONTINUED AGAINST ARVN AND TERRITORIAL FORCE OUTPOST LOCATIONS SURROUNDING TAY NINH CITY. THE PROVINCE CAPITAL ITSELF RECEIVED ONLY FIVE ROCKET ROUNDS, NEAR TAY NINH SECTOR, WITH NEGATIVE

CASUALTIES REPORTED.

CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 SAIGON 01850 04 OF 05 192155Z

6. ON FEB 17 IN LONG AN PROVINCE, AN UNKNOWN SIZE NVA/VC FORCE ATTACKED AND OVERRAN CAY DA OUTPOST MANNED BY ONE RF PLATOON, EIGHT KMS NW OF BEN LUC. CONTACT WAS LOST WITH THE OUTPOST AND CASUALTIES ARE UNKNOWN. AN RF FORCE ENROUTE TO THE OUTPOST WAS ALSO ATTACKED. TERRITORIAL LOSSES WERE TWO KILLED, 14 WOUNDED, AND FOUR MISSING. THREE NVA/VC WERE KILLED.

7. WITH A GENERAL LULL IN MAIN FORCE ACTIVITY, TERRORIST AND SAPPER INCIDENTS IN THE FORM OF ASSASSINATIONS, ABDUCTIONS AND KIDNAPPINGS INCREASED THROUGHOUT MR-3. DURING THE EARLY MORNING HOURS OF FEB 14, TERRORISTS PENETRATED A HAMLET ALONG ROUTE 13, SEVEN KMS SE OF BEN CAT DISTRICT IN BINH DUONG PROVINCE, AND ABDUCTED TWO ARVN SOLDIERS AND 13 CIVILIANS. IN BIEN HOA PROVINCE ON FEB 10, TERRORISTS ASSASSINATED A DEPUTY HAMLET CHIEF TWO KMS NE OF LONG THANH. ON FEB 16 IN HAU NGHIA SAPPERS ABDUCTED ONE PF

SOLDIER EIGHT KMS NE OF DUC HOA. ON FEB 16 SAPPERS IN GIA DINH PRO-

VINCE DETONATED EXPLOSIVE CHARGES AGAINST A POLICE CHECKPOINT FOUR KMS SW OF TAN BINH WOUNDING TWO NATIONAL POLICEMEN AND ONE YOUNG BOY. ON THE SAME DAY THREE KMS NW OF GO VAP, EXPLOSIVES CARRIED BY A BOY AND GIRL ACCIDENTALLY DETONATED, KILLING THE GIRL AND WOUNDING THE BOY. ON FEB 17 TWO SAPPER SQUADS PENETRATED PHUOC DIEN HAMLET FIVE KMS SE OF PHUOC NINH IN TAY NINH PROVINCE AND ABDUCTED THREE PSDF MEMBERS AND FOUR CIVILIANS. ALSO ON FEB 17 ONE WOMAN WAS CAPTURED IN THE SAIGON METROPOLITAN AREA OF GIA DINH PROVINCE CARRYING A K-54 CHINESE PISTOL, A PACK OF EXPLOSIVES, AND A QUANTITY OF ANTI-THIEU LEAFLETS. ON FEB 18 SAPPERS WERE DISCOVERED ATTEMPTING TO INFILTRATE TRA CU BASE EIGHT KMS SW OF HAU NGHIA. ONE SAPPER WAS KILLED.

8. ICCS: THERE WERE NO ICCS OBSERVATIONS IN ICCS REGION V DURING THIS PERIOD.

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PAGE 01 SAIGON 01850 05 OF 05 191532Z

51

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-09 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 AID-05 OMB-01 IO-10 SR-02 ORM-01 NIC-01 DPW-01

EB-07 IGA-01 /098 W

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R 191233Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2858

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMCONSUL CAN THO

AMCONSUL DANANG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USDEL JEC PARIS

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

USIA WASHDC

AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

CINCPACFLT MAKALAPA HI
CINCPACAF HICKAM AFB HI
CG FMFPAC
CDR USSAG NKP RTAFB
USDAO SAIGON
USDEL FPJMT SAIGON
AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
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PAGE 02 SAIGON 01850 05 OF 05 191532Z

USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 5 OF 5 SAIGON 1850

USIA FOR IBS/NCA
CINCPAC FOR POLAD

PART VII--MR-4

MILITARY SITUATION: (A) OVERALL SECURITY: MOST OF THE DELTA ENJOYED A QUIET TET AS THE LULL WHICH BEGAN DURING THE HOLIDAYS CONTINUED THROUGHOUT THE WEEK. SOME MR4 SOURCES STILL EXPECT INCREASED ACTIVITY IN NEAR FUTURE, BUT A RENEWED HIGHPOINT NOW APPEARS LESS LIKELY FOR REST OF MONTH. NVA/VC CONDUCTED EXTENSIVE PROPAGANDA CAMPAIGN PRIOR TO TET IN EFFORT SHAKE PUBLIC CONFIDENCE WITHOUT COMMITTING TROOPS AND MATERIEL AFTER HEAVY LOSSES IN DECEMBER AND JANUARY. REPORTS FROM MOC HOA, HOWEVER, INDICATES PEOPLE THERE BELIEVE ARVN PREVENTED NVA/VC FROM LAUNCHING PREDICTED ATTACKS AND RELATIVE QUIET HAS BOOSTED PUBLIC CONFIDENCE IN ARVN 9TH DIVISION AND TERRITORIAL FORCES. CORPS REPORTS 319 NVA/VC INCIDENTS (630 LAST WEEK) CONSISTING OF 12 GROUND ATTACKS (68), 5 INFILTRATIONS (1), 187 ATTACKS BY FIRE (395), 88 HARASSMENTS (132), 10 SABOTAGE (18), 15 TERRORIST INCIDENTS (13) AND 2 BETRAYALS. GVN LOSSES DECLINED TO 88 KIA (190), 461 WIA (810), 14 MIA (51), AND 1 CREW-SERVED (1) AND 40 INDIVIDUAL (201) WEAPONS LOST. CORPS CLAIMS 500 NVA/VC KILLED (746), 47 PRISONERS AND SUSPECTS CAPTURED (70), AND 17 CREW-SERVED (22) AND 130 INDIVIDUAL (185) WEAPONS SEIZED.

(B) NORTHERN DELTA: IN DINH TUONG PROVINCE, NVA/VC FAILED TO CARRY OUT THREATENED SHELLING AND SAPPER ATTACKS IN MY THO CITY,

DUE IN PART TO DISCOVERY BY ELEMENT OF 12TH ARVN REGIMENT OF EXPLOSIVES AND AMMUNITION ON EDGE OF CITY THE DAY BEFORE TET. ONE CIVILIAN WAS KILLED AND 15 WOUNDED IN SHELLINGS OF BEN TRANH DISTRICT TOWN. HAU MY DISTRICT TOWN WAS ALSO SHELLED WITH NO CASUALTIES. INCIDENTS ON ROUTES 20 AND 29 AND HIGHWAY 4 CONTINUED, BUT THERE WERE NO DAYTIME INCIDENTS ON HIGHWAY 4. IN GO CONG PROVINCE, SEVERAL SMALL CONTACTS WERE REPORTED IN WESTERN HOA DONG AND HOA BINH DISTRICTS, RESULTING IN LIGHT GVN CASUALTIES. IN KIEN PHONG PROVINCE, A VILLAGE OFFICE 2 KMS NORTH OF HONG NGU (D) TOWN REPULSED A GROUND ATTACK. THE REST OF THE PROVINCE
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PAGE 03 SAIGON 01850 05 OF 05 191532Z

WAS QUIET. ROUTE 30 REMAINS OPEN AND COMMERCIAL TRAFFIC, INCLUDING BUSES, IS USING IT. KIEN TUONG PROVINCE WAS ALSO QUIET, BUT THERE WERE SOME SIGNIFICANT MOVEMENTS OF NVA/VC UNITS. THE 174TH NVA REGIMENT IS REPORTEDLY MOVING TO TUYEN NHON (D) TO REPLACE THE 275TH, WHICH FAILED TO TAKE THE DISTRICT TOWN. THE 174TH AND Z-15 WILL MOVE NW OF MOC HOA. THIS WILL BE THE FIRST TIME THE Z-15 HAS OPERATED NORTH OF THE CUNG CANAL IN SOUTHERN KIEN TUONG. TUYEN BINH AND TUYEN NHON DISTRICT TOWNS CONTINUED TO BE MORTARED AND ROCKETED, BUT WITH NO SIGNIFICANT DAMAGE OR CASUALTIES.

(C) CENTRAL DELTA: IN KIEN HOA PROVINCE, LIGHT MILITARY ACTIVITY WAS LIMITED TO HARASSMENTS OF ISOLATED GVN OB'S AND CIVIL OFFICES AND SMALL CONTACTS RESULTING FROM GVN SECURITY OPERATIONS. ACTIVITY IN VINH BINH PROVINCE WAS ALSO LIGHT BUT A VILLAG

(#)

4 DAYS. AN ARVN BATTALION AND TWO ARMORED

TROOPS CONTINUE TO OPERATE IN PROVINCE, AND NVA/VC TROOPS APPEAR TO BE RESTING AND REFITTING FOLLOWING HIGH LEVEL OF ACTIVITY IN DECEMBER AND JANUARY. NUMBER OF INCIDENTS IN VINH LONG PROVINCE WERE ABOUT HALF THE AVERAGE, AND MOST OF THESE RESULTED FROM GVN SECURITY OPERATIONS. NVA/VC ACTIVITY INCREASED SLIGHTLY BETWEEN CHAU THANH AND MINH DUC DISTRICTS NEAR THE END OF THE PERIOD, BUT NO MAJOR INCIDENTS WERE REPORTED. NEIGHBORING SA DEC PROVINCE EXPERIENCED CONTINUED NVA/VC PRESSURE, PARTICULARLY IN DUC TON (D) WHERE TWO RF BATTALION HQ'S WERE MORTARED AND A WATCHTOWER OVERRUN. LAP VO (D) WAS ALSO ACTIVE: A CULVERT ON ROUTE 8A CONNECTING SA DEC AND LONG XUYEN WAS DAMAGED, AND 13 PSDF WERE MISSING FOLLOWING AN ATTACK ON THEIR POSITION. IN PHONG DINH PROVINCE,

THE ONLY GROUND ATTACK WAS AGAINST A PSDF WATCHTOWER ON HIGHWAY 4
IN NORTHERN PHUNG HIEP (D); 4 PSDF WERE MIA. OTHER ACTIVITY
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PAGE 04 SAIGON 01850 05 OF 05 191532Z

CONSISTED OF SHELLINGS CONCENTRATED PRIMARILY IN PHUNG HIEP (D).
PSDF KILLED ONE VC AND CAPTURED ANOTHER IN A CLASH 300 METERS FROM
HIGHWAY 4 IN SOUTHERN CHAU THANH (D). IN KIEN GIANG PROVINCE,
NVA/VC-INITIATED INCIDENTS AVERAGED ONLY 2 OR 3 PER DAY AS SECTOR
FORCES AND 21ST ARVN DIVISION TROOPS CONTINUED TO SWEEP AREAS NE
AND NW OF RACH GIA IN AN EFFORT TO PREVENT COMMUNIST UNITS FROM
APPROACHING THE CITY. ARTILLERY AND AIRSTRIKES SUPPORTED 31ST
REGIMENT UNITS OPERATING NW OF RACH GIA. THERE WERE SPORADIC
CONTACTS ALONG THE RACH GIA-LONG XUYEN CANAL RESULTING IN LIGHT
GVN CASUALTIES.

(D) SOUTHERN DELTA: ACTIVITY IN BA XUYEN PROVINCE INCREASED IN
HOA TU, THANH TRI AND THUAN HOA DISTRICTS AT THE END OF THE
REPORTING PERIOD, BUT MOST INCIDENTS CONSISTED OF HARASSMENTS
AND ABF'S. THUAN HOA DISTRICT HQ AND 3 VILLAGE OFFICES IN THANH TRI
AND HOA TU DISTRICTS WERE SHELLED RESULTING IN LIGHT
CASUALTIES. TWO NAVAL PATROL CRAFT WERE HEAVILY DAMAGED AND A
THIRD SUNK BY FLOATING MINES ON THE HOA THANH RIVER IN HOA TU (D).
HEAVIEST NVA/VCPRESSURE CONTINUED TO BE IN NORTHERN TUAN HOA (D)
ADJACENT TO AREAS ALREADY CONTROLLED BY THE COMMUNISTS, AND A
21ST ARVN DIVISION BATTALION HAS BEEN SENT TO THE AREA. ACTIVITY
IN BAC LIEU PROVINCE, WHICH CONTINUED DURING THE HOLIDAYS,
LET UP AT THE END OF THE WEEK AND ONLY NORTH EASTERN VINH CHAU
REPORTS CONTINUED INCIDENTS. THE PHU LOI I BATTALION HAS
CONCENTRATED THERE AND IS CONDUCTING MINOR SHELLINGS AND
HARASSMENTS AGAINST OB'S IN THE AREA. AN ARVN ARMORED TROOP AND
INFANTRY BATTALION HAVE BEEN OPERATING IN PHUOC LONG (D), LOCATION
OF HEAVY PRESSURE IN RECENT WEEKS, SINCE FEBRUARY 10. 15 NVA/VC
WERE KILLED THERE IN ONE CONTACT. ACTIVITY IN CHUONG THIEN
PROVINCE CONSISTED ALMOST ENTIRELY OF SMALL CONTACTS IN KIEN
THIEN AND LONG MY DISTRICTS AND AROUND THE PROVINCE CAPITAL.
MOST SIGNIFICANT OF THESE OCCURRED 4 KM SOUTH OF LONG MY
DISTRICT TOWN WHERE A PF PLATOON KILLED 10 NVA/VC WHILE SUFFERING
NO CASUALTIES. A PF OB 9 KM EAST OF VI THANH WAS SHELLED RESULTING
IN 1 PF KIA AND 1 WIA. ACTIVITY IN AN XUYEN PROVINCE WAS THE MOST
SERIOUS IN THE DELTA. NVA/VC CONTINUED STRONG PRESSURE ON DAM DOI
DISTRICT HQ. VNAF RESUPPLY AND MEDEVAC BECAME IMPOSSIBLE NEAR THE
END OF THE WEEK DUE TO HEAVY GROUND FIRE, AND ARVN UNITS HAVE BEEN
DEPLOYED TO THE AREA TO ATTEMPT TO RELIEVE THE PRESSURE.

2. ICCS ACTIVITY: ICCS REGION VI RECEIVED COMPLAINTS OF SIX
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PAGE 05 SAIGON 01850 05 OF 05 191532Z

CEASE-FIRE VIOLATIONS BUT MADE NO OBSERVATIONS. ICCS REGION
VII RECEIVED COMPLAINTS OF 11 VIOLATIONS BUT MADE NO OBSERVATIONS.
LAST WEEK, REGION VII RECEIVED 19 COMPLAINTS; IRANIAN AND
INDONESIAN DELEGATES IN QUAN LONG CONDUCTED AN OBSERVATION OF
THE DESTRUCTION BY SAPPERS OF A BRIDGE IN CA MAU.
MARTIN

NOTE BY OC/T: SECTION 5 OF 5 SAIGON 1850; (#) OMISSION,
CORRECTION TO FOLLOW.

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